

their jurisdictional differences to promote the interests of the country first. If the Senate produced more legislation in this manner, perhaps the American public could suspend its cynicism about our overwhelming absorption with scoring political points.

The Shelby-Sarbanes amendment will authorize \$3.5 billion in grants for mass transit security, including capital improvements, research and development, and operations.

This amendment is an authorization but it sets a marker for the Congress to fund these grant programs in the subsequent appropriations cycles.

The amendment also restores funding for the Public Transportation Information Sharing and Analysis Center, which is the vehicle for mass transit systems all over the country to share and analyze intelligence about threats to their sector, and defenses against them.

The second amendment I want to address is Senator McCain's rail security amendment, which I also cosponsored. In fact, when my friend from Arizona introduced this amendment as a bill in the 108th Congress, I cosponsored it then. It will make marked improvements in the security of our passenger rail systems with an authorization of \$1.2 billion. The amendment directs the Department of Homeland Security to complete and prioritize recommendations regarding vulnerability assessments for freight and passenger rail transportation systems. Notably, the amendment would benefit Amtrak and its thousands of daily riders in three direct ways.

The amendment also creates a pilot program to conduct random security screens of passengers and baggage at a specified number of Amtrak stations. It calls for certain fire and life-safety improvements and infrastructure upgrades to Amtrak tunnels on the Northeast Corridor. And it directs Amtrak to submit to the National Transportation Safety Board and the Secretary of Transportation a plan to address the needs of families of passengers involved in rail passenger accidents.

Combined, the authorizations contained within these two amendments are in line with the American Public Transportation Association's estimate that \$7.2 billion is needed to secure the country's rail and transit systems.

Over the last few years, we have seen the decentralization of al-Qaida and with it the growth of homegrown terrorist activities directed toward the open, densely populated, and vulnerable mass transit and rail systems. I am pleased the Senate has accepted these amendments which will help cities and States defend against these deadly threats.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DEMINT). Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE CHARACTER OF THE SENATE

Mr. KERRY. Madam President, an awful lot has been written and enough has been said about the comments made yesterday by House majority leader JOHN BOEHNER. I am not interested in asking Mr. BOEHNER for a clarification or retraction or even an apology. His statement was very clear and I believe equally despicable. And his words are, frankly, beyond redemption. They are, however, sadly, what we have seen much too much of in politics today in our country.

So this is an opportunity today for the Senate to be the Senate. We talk here about "my friend from across the aisle." We talk about the traditions of the Senate. We talk about civility. But in the last years, a lot of us have seen things happen here that never would have happened in the Senate of 15 or 20 years ago.

We have come a long way since the days when Bob Dole and George Mitchell refused to campaign against each other. I have seen colleagues say in the cloakroom that they thought it was wrong to see the courage of their friend, Max Cleland, attacked, but on the floor of the Senate there is silence.

I know there are good people here who still long for civility. I have heard it. I heard the junior Senator from Oregon say, just this summer: My soul cries out for something more dignified. My friend from Arizona, just this spring, said: The self-expression sometimes overwhelms our civility.

Well, this is one of those times. But I think it is more than that. I think it is an opportunity, in keeping with these pleas for civility, for some of our colleagues on the other side of the aisle to actually come to the floor and not just talk about civility but express the truth, to come here and condemn Mr. BOEHNER's remarks in no uncertain terms if they disagree with them. I think that is the real test of the kind of place we have become and the kind of politics we are willing to tolerate. It is a test of the character of the Senate. And I think every American would benefit from hearing where Republicans stand on Mr. BOEHNER's words expressed yesterday.

SENATOR BAUCUS'S 10,000TH VOTE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, may I have the attention of the Senate. On

rollcall vote No. 244, the distinguished Senator from Montana and the current ranking member of the Finance Committee, Senator MAX BAUCUS, cast his 10,000th vote in this Chamber.

Senator BAUCUS now joins a very historic and select club of U.S. Senators who can claim this distinction. Only 26 other Senators have achieved this milestone.

From his post on the Finance Committee, Senator BAUCUS has worked on a bipartisan basis on many issues important to Montanans, from tax policy to health care reform. Legislating is the art of compromise, and in his 28 years of service Senator BAUCUS has mastered it.

A recent example that comes to mind is the Medicare prescription drug bill, which I sponsored. Without Senator BAUCUS's hard work and support, 31 million seniors wouldn't have the drug benefits they now enjoy.

Back home in Montana, Senator BAUCUS is affectionately known for his "Work Days"—days he spends working a full day alongside Montanans at a local business.

Senator BAUCUS, I know I speak for all your fellow Senators, when I say congratulations on this achievement, but more importantly, thank you for your service to Montana, to your country, and importantly, to the United States Senate.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF GOLINHARRIS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate a Chicago business on its 50th anniversary.

The public relations firm GolinHarris began as a six-person operation in Chicago in 1956. Fifty years later, GolinHarris is one of the world's leading public relations firms, with a client list that reads like a Who's Who of Business. It employs more than 450 professionals in 29 offices across the globe—from Brazil to Belgrade, Stockholm to Singapore—but, I am proud to say, GolinHarris continues to call Chicago home.

One thing about GolinHarris has not changed over these 5 decades and that is the strength of its leadership. Under the guidance of Chairman Al Golin who has helped shape the firm from its beginning, GolinHarris has developed a reputation as an outstanding corporate citizen and an innovator in an intensely competitive and fast-changing field.

I would like to extend my congratulations to Al Golin and the employees of GolinHarris on this milestone 50th anniversary and wish them continued success in the years to come.

INDUCTION OF JOE DUMARS

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I would like to make remarks about an American who has made many proud and achieved an incredible milestone this past weekend.

The person I am referring to is Joe Dumars who has been affiliated with the Detroit Pistons professional basketball franchise since he was drafted by the Pistons in 1985. This past Friday, Joe was inducted in the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, MA. On behalf of all Michiganders and Pistons fans everywhere, I would like to congratulate Joe and his family on this great achievement.

Joe Dumars was born May 24, 1963, in Shreveport, LA. He attended Natchitoches High School and later McNeese State University, both also in Louisiana. He was the number eighth overall pick in the 1985 National Basketball Association—NBA—draft, selected by the Pistons for, among other things, his reputation to play defense.

In the NBA, Joe lived up to that reputation—often being called on by Pistons head coach Chuck Daly to guard the other team's best player. This was never more evident in the 1980s as the Pistons consistently bested the Chicago Bulls due in part to Joe Dumars' defense on a young guard named Michael Jordan. To this day, Michael Jordan says Joe Dumars was one of the best defenders he ever faced.

Always a team player, Joe Dumars became a pillar in the foundation of a Pistons team that went to the NBA finals three times in his career winning the championship twice in 1989 and 1990. Isiah Thomas, Bill Laimbeer, Dennis Rodman, John Salley, and Joe Dumars proved that defense wins championships, and Joe was personally rewarded as the NBA Finals MVP in 1989.

Joe Dumars retired as a player from the NBA in 1999 playing all 14 of his seasons with the Pistons. His career achievements include scoring 16,401 points, handing out 4,612 assists, grabbing 2,203 rebounds, and recording 903 steals. He was named to the NBA All-Star team six times and to the NBA All Defensive first team four times during his career. Joe's jersey was retired by the Pistons the year after he retired and it now hangs high in the rafters of the Palace of Auburn Hills.

Although Joe's playing career was now over, his enthusiasm and love of the game never diminished, so he took a job in 2000 with the Pistons in their front office as president of Basketball Operations. He was named NBA Executive of the Year in 2003 and put together the team that reached the NBA finals in 2004 and 2005. Winning the NBA championship in 2004 made Joe a key figure of all three Pistons' championships.

Friday in Springfield, MA, all of Joe's achievements earned him the ultimate recognition in his chosen profession. So to Joe, his family, his former teammates, and the entire Pistons organization, from this Pistons fan I say congratulations on a recognition well deserved.

SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE OVERSIGHT

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I join the vice chairman of the Intelligence Committee in expressing my concerns about the Committee's inability to conduct oversight of the President's illegal warrantless wiretapping program. Unfortunately, the administration's continued defiance of Congress is simply the latest in a series of efforts to hide its illegal activities and obscure the true extent of its power grab.

Let us not forget how we got to this point. For 4 years, the administration conducted a plainly illegal program, eavesdropping on Americans on American soil without the warrants required under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, or FISA. During this time, the administration refused to inform the full congressional intelligence committees, in clear violation of the National Security Act.

Then, late last year, the program was revealed in the press. Rather than admit that it had broken the law and explain why it had done so, the administration used the occasion to embark on a coordinated and misleading public relations campaign. In speeches and press conferences, administration officials repeatedly asserted that domestic eavesdropping without a warrant was necessary to conduct surveillance of terrorist suspects, and it suggested that those committed to the rule of law were unconcerned about the terrorist threat.

Even the title the administration has bestowed upon its illegal behavior—the Terrorist Surveillance Program—is misleading. We already have a "terrorist surveillance program." It is called FISA. It permits the surveillance of terrorist suspects in the United States, with the approval of a secret court, and it has been the law of the land for nearly 30 years.

Let us also not forget the administration's illegal defiance of congressional oversight. For 4½ years, including several months after the warrantless wiretapping program was revealed in the press, the administration violated the National Security Act by refusing to brief the congressional intelligence committees on the program. The administration began the briefings required by law only when it became clear that its defiance might complicate the nomination of General Hayden, who, as the then-Director of the NSA, implemented the program and had been nominated as the new Director of the CIA. Despite months of public discussion about the program by administration officials, the majority of the members of the Senate Intelligence Committee were briefed about the program for the first time only on the eve of General Hayden's confirmation hearing in May.

Those of us who hoped that this belated briefing marked a change in attitude—and a recognition of the administration's legal responsibilities—were quickly disappointed. That is why,

later that month, the full Senate Intelligence Committee called on the administration to work with the committee so that we could conduct ongoing, thorough oversight over the operational, legal and budgetary aspects of the program. The cooperation requested by the Committee has not happened, however. And, as the vice chairman has pointed out, the administration continues to refuse to provide the committee with critical documents and information necessary to review the program.

The congressional intelligence committees review highly sensitive classified intelligence programs every day. That is their job. The vast majority of those programs have never been publicly disclosed. Yet the warrantless wiretapping program—which has been the subject of speeches, press conferences and public testimony by administration officials, making it the most widely examined, the most public program in NSA's history—is the one program the administration still refuses to explain fully to the congressional intelligence committees.

The vice chairman of the committee has described some of the materials that the administration has thus far refused to provide the committee—Presidential orders authorizing the program, legal reviews and opinions relating to the program, and procedures and guidelines on the use of information obtained through the program. All of these materials relate to the legality of the program. It is difficult to avoid the conclusion that the administration has stonewalled the committee's efforts to conduct oversight of this program not because the program is uniquely sensitive, but because it is illegal.

While the Intelligence Committee has been unable to conduct oversight of the warrantless surveillance program, the Judiciary Committee, which this morning reported out a bill that seeks to legalize the program, has been denied access to any information about the program. Attorney General Gonzales has provided testimony to the Judiciary Committee, but that testimony has been limited to a careful repetition of only what the President has already publicly acknowledged. As a result, the Judiciary Committee does not have access to information it needed before it should even have begun considering legislation, including many of the legal documents denied the Intelligence Committee. The Judiciary Committee was left to legislate in the dark, with many members blindly seeking to legalize illegal behavior without even an understanding of whether those changes are actually necessary.

And now, we face the prospect that the full Senate may consider legislation related to the program. It is bad enough to have a committee legislate in the dark. But having the entire Senate debate legislation when just a few Senators—those on the Intelligence